



PATENT APPEAL

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT APPLICATION

In re Application of ) Group Art Unit: 2875  
Jeffrey P. Buschmann et. al. ) Examiner: Adam C. Rehm  
Serial No.: 10/803,347 ) Paper No.  
Filed: March 18, 2004 )  
For: ELECTRIC LAMP WITH RECESSED LENS

BRIEF IN SUPPORT OF AN APPEAL FROM THE PRIMARY EXAMINER TO  
THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

(I) REAL PARTY IN INTEREST

The real party in interest is the Assignee, Osram Sylvania, Inc.

(II) RELATED APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

There are no related appeals or interferences.

(III) STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-16 remain in the application.

Claims 1-16 have been rejected.

Claims 1-16 are subject to the Appeal.

(IV) STATUS OF AMENDMENTS

The Amendment After Final dated March 17, 2006 was entered.

(V) SUMMARY OF CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER

Claim 1: The Applicant claims a lamp assembly (FIG. 1) including a light source (lamp capsule 16) enclosed in a reflector 12, where the reflector 12 includes an internal support 22 for a lens 14 that closes the reflector 12 at one end. The internal support 22 is offset from the

lead edge 18 of the reflector 12 so the entire lens 14 is within the body of the reflector 12. The reflector 12 then has wall portion (from 18 to 22) surrounding the lens 14. The lamp then has a protective guard and light shade edging the sheltered lens.

Claim 8: The Applicant claims similarly to claim 1, wherein (FIG. 2) the enclosed lamp capsule is supported by on a support frame 40, and the assembly includes a rigid, non-conducting body with two axial crevices in which the ends of the support frame ride in. This body is braced against the reflector. The support frame is then strengthened by being braced in the elongated crevices of the non-conducting body. The non-conducting body stiffens the support lead frame 40, and spreads twisting stresses from the lead frame over a large area of the reflector. There is then reduced capsule sway, and reduced stress in the frame to reflector coupling.

#### (VI) GROUNDS OF REJECTION TO BE REVIEWED ON APPEAL

Do the claims provide sufficient mechanical connection to satisfy 35 USC 112, second paragraph?

Do the cited references make the claimed invention obvious?

#### (VII) ARGUMENT

##### REJECTION 112:

Claim 5 was rejected under 35 USC 112, second paragraph for omitting essential structural connection, pointing in particular to "how axially extending crevices are capable of supporting the end portions of the support."

Claim 5 as amended reads, in part, "wherein the base includes a rigid non-conducting body mechanically coupled to the reflector adjacent the base opening; the non-conducting body being formed with two or more axially extending crevices enclosing to brace at least end portions of the support" It is clear the base further includes "... a rigid non-conducting body mechanically coupled to the reflector adjacent the base opening..." The position and coupling are structurally defined. It is clear "the non-conducting body" is further "... formed with two or more axially extending crevices". The axial direction is clearly defined. An axially extending crevice is a

clear mechanical description of a feature possessed by the rigid body. The crevices are described as enclosing at least end portions of the support. This is a clear mechanical relation. End portions of the support are enclosed in the axial crevices. This enclosure is further mechanically limited in that end portions of the support are braced in the crevices. The rigid support, at least along the axial crevices approaches the support sufficiently to provide a brace to the support. This is a clear mechanical relationship. The Applicant believes there is a clear, written description of a mechanical configuration linking and relating all claimed parts. No part is unlinked in relation to the other parts. Further, the claimed parts and relations are all clearly depicted in the figures. The Applicant believes the requirements of 112 second paragraph are met, and there is no basis for the rejection.

REJECTION 103:

Claims 1 - 16 were rejected under 35 USC 103 over combinations of Cooper, US 5,997,154; Mayer US 6,724,135; Haraden, US 5,254,901 and van Lier, US 6,600,256.

Cooper '154 shows a metal reflector 32 formed with a ledge at the forward most edge. The ledge provides a support for a filter 26 that extends forward of the reflector body. A holder 28 holds this assembly together.

Cooper fails to show "...a lens located entirely in the defined [reflector] cavity..."

Cooper fails to show "...[the reflector cavity having] the one or more projections and sealed along the lens to the interior surface".

Cooper fails to show "...the lens being offset from the face opening sufficient that the whole of the lens is recessed from the face opening..." and

Cooper fails to show this in the context of "An electric lamp...[with] a threaded base providing electrical connection for the two or more electric leads and mechanical support for the support.

Cooper effectively shows flashlight with a detachable filter guarded by a holder. Cooper does not make a threaded base lamp bulb with a sealed and fully recessed lens obvious. There is no suggestion in Cooper to form the support for the lens anywhere but on the forward most part

of the reflector. There is no suggestion anywhere in Cooper to fully recess the lens in the depth of the reflector. There is no suggestion anywhere in Cooper to seal the lens edge to the reflector in the deep position. There is no suggestion anywhere in Cooper to use the resulting reflector lip as a guard for the lens. Looking at Cooper, one does not see a prescription of how to make threaded base lamp with a lens protected by the reflector wall.

Mayer '135 shows a threaded base reflector lamp. The reflector shows the typical ledge formed at the leading edge of the reflector to support a typical cover lens.

Mayer fails to show "...a lens located entirely in the defined [reflector] cavity..." and

Mayer fails to show "... the lens being offset from the face opening sufficient that the whole of the lens is recessed from the face opening..."

Mayer shows a common PAR lamp structure with the lens and reflector joined at the front lip, just like every other sealed PAR lamp. The seal is typical of a jar with a top or a can with a lid. It is obvious to use the lead edge as the sealing point. Choosing the leading edge maximizes the enclosed reflector area, and minimizes any "wasted" overhang. Closing at the leading edge of a shell is the obvious seal point. Everybody does it. There is no suggestion in the cited references to do anything differently. Looking at Mayer, there is no suggestion to recess the lens wholly within the body of the reflector to leave a protective lip surrounding the lens that acts as a light shield or guide shaping the projected beam and limiting the side view of the beam. Mayer does not excite anything but the old knowledge of sealing a lens to a reflector the same old way. Mayer does not make the claimed invention obvious.

Haraden '901 and Van Lier '256 mount their respective lenses on the leading edge of the reflectors and bow the lenses even further forward. The two references then lead in the opposite direction by suggesting an externally mounted and externally extended lens. Neither reference shows, suggests or makes obvious a lamp with a lens fully recessed in the cavity of the reflector.

No combination of the references leads one to make a threaded base lamp with a fully recessed lens.

The rejection of Claims 1 – 16 as being unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. 103 as being obvious over any combination of Cooper '154; Mayer '135; Haraden '901 and van Lier '256 is respectfully traversed and reconsideration thereof is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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(VIII) CLAIMS APPENDIX

1. An electric lamp comprising:
  - a sealed electric lamp capsule having two or more electric in-leads;
  - a support holding the lamp capsule;
  - a reflector having an interior wall defining a cavity of rotation, the reflector having a first edge defining a base opening and a second edge defining a face opening, the interior wall including one or more projections offset from the face opening and extending into the defined cavity; the reflector enclosing the lamp capsule;
  - a lens located entirely in the defined cavity, and spanning a cross section of the cavity adjacent the one or more projections and sealed along the lens to the interior surface, the lens being offset from the face opening sufficient that the whole of the lens is recessed from the face opening; and
  - a threaded base providing electrical connection for the two or more electric leads and mechanical support for the support.
2. The electric lamp in claim 1, wherein the projection comprises a step formed on the interior wall of the reflector.
3. The electric lamp in claim 1, wherein the support includes two or more rigid tubes mechanically attached to and extending from the base, having electrical connections extending through the tubes.
4. The electric lamp in claim 1, wherein the support includes two or more substantially rigid tubes mechanically attached to and extending through the reflector, having electrical connections extending through the tubes.
5. The electric lamp in claim 1, wherein the base includes a rigid non-conducting body mechanically coupled to the reflector adjacent the base opening; the non-conducting body

being formed with two or more axially extending crevices enclosing to brace at least end portions of the support.

6. The electric lamp in claim 3, wherein the base includes a rigid non-conducting body mechanically coupled to the reflector adjacent the base opening; the non-conducting body being formed with two or more axially extending crevices enclosing to brace at least portions of the rigid tubes..
7. The electric lamp in claim 6, wherein the non-conducting body is bonded to the reflector by an intermediate material.
8. An electric lamp comprising:
  - a sealed electric lamp capsule having two or more electric in-leads;
  - a support frame holding the lamp capsule;
  - a reflector having an interior wall defining a cavity of rotation, the reflector having a first edge defining a base opening and a second edge defining a face opening, the interior wall including one or more projections offset from the face opening extending into the defined cavity; the reflector enclosing the lamp capsule;
  - a lens with an exterior most face located entirely in the defined cavity, and spanning a cross section of the cavity adjacent the one or more projections and sealed along the lens to the interior surface; the lens located to span the face opening; the lens being offset from the face opening sufficient that the whole of the lens is recessed from the face opening; and
  - a threaded base providing electrical connection for the two or more electric leads and mechanical support for the support frame; the base including a rigid non-conducting body mechanically coupled to the reflector adjacent the base opening; the non-conducting body being formed with two or more axially extending crevices enclosing to brace at least end portions of the support frame.
9. The electric lamp in claim 8, wherein the projection comprises a step formed on the interior wall of the reflector.

10. The electric lamp in claim 8, wherein the support frame includes two or more substantially rigid tubes mechanically attached to and extending from the base, having electrical connections extending through the tubes.
11. The electric lamp in claim 8, wherein the rigid non-conducting body is formed with two or more axially extending crevices enclosing to brace at least portions of the rigid tubes.
12. The electric lamp in claim 8, wherein the non-conducting body is bonded to the reflector by an intermediate material.
13. The electric lamp in claim 1, wherein the reflector has an end wall separating the reflector surface from the base, and the end wall is formed with two through passages supporting, and the support extends through the formed passages and is fixed to the reflector at each end of the formed passages.
14. The electric lamp in claim 13, wherein the support frame includes tubular elements extending through the formed passages, each tubular element being crimped on either side of the end wall adjacent the end wall to lock the tubular piece to the end wall.
15. The electric lamp in claim 14, wherein a quantity of glue is positioned between the reflector and the tubular elements to glue the tubular elements to the reflector.
16. The electric lamp in claim 14, wherein at least one tubular element includes a flared end on one side of the end wall, and a crimp is formed on the tubular element adjacent the other side of the end wall to lock the tubular element to the end wall, and a lead rod is extended in the tubular element to be braced along a length of the tubular element, and coupled to the tubular element at least one point by crimping the tubular element to the enclosed lead rod.

(IX) EVIDENCE APPENDIX

Item not relevant

(X) RELATED PROCEEDINGS APPENDIX

Item not relevant

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450 on the date March, 17, 2006  
 signed William E. Meyer

Commissioner For Patents  
 P.O. Box 1450  
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

NOTICE OF APPEAL FROM THE PRIMARY EXAMINER TO  
 THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

Dear Sir:

1. Applicants hereby appeal to the Board from the decision of the Primary Examiner mailed January 19, 2006 finally rejecting claims 1-16.
2. This application is made on behalf of an other than a small entity.
3. Pursuant 37 C.F.R. 41.20(b)(1), please charge Deposit Account No. 15-0685 \$500.00 or any other appropriate amount for
  - 1) filing the Notice of Appeal, and
  - 2) any amount needed to for an extension of time to make this appeal timely.
4. A duplicate of this Notice of Appeal is attached.

Respectfully Submitted,

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